



A PATRIARCH OF THE AVOCADO FAMILY.

(*Persea americana* Mill.)

This avocado tree, now dying (probably of old age), stands in a small orchard in the Patate Valley of Ecuador. It is believed to have been planted by the Jesuit missionaries more than 150 years ago. The seed may have come from Mexico, since the tree belongs to the well-known Mexican race of avocados. (Photographed by Wilson Popenoe, near Ambato, Ecuador, January, 1921; P18360FS.)